

Sara Moore

2717 W Maplewood Ave , Bellingham, WA 98225

July 6, 2004 11:10 PM

Dr. Julie Gerberding

Subject: Oppose New CDC Regulations

Dear Dr. Gerberding:

Please withdraw the proposed new CDC regulations that threaten proven effective HIV prevention efforts. Rather than promote comprehensive, science based prevention methods, these guidelines blatantly disregard tried and true programs, taking decision making powers away from the groups most familiar with the at-risk populations and placing it instead in the hands of ideologically motivated political appointees.

Further detrimental is the required inclusion of information on the ineffectiveness of condom use in preventing the spread of HIV and other STDs. Teaching about condoms does not encourage sexual activity, just as many studies show that abstinence only programs do not lower the rate. Rather it is essential that the CDC continue to support models that are comprehensive in nature, each speaking to different populations.

I'm a twenty year old college student, biracial and bisexual. I know that telling people not to have sex and misinforming them about their options to protect themselves are actions that call the morals of this government into question; I hope the CDC will not have to take these actions due to pressure from groups and people outside the CDC. Since I was a little girl I've wanted to work for the CDC after I finish college. Please preserve the honorable reputation of the CDC and the lives of countless Americans by not adopting guidelines that blatantly fly in the face of reality, and invaluable years of work doctors and activists, and the CDC, have done creating programs that do work.

Sincerely,

Sara Moore